

TOKYO GAZETTE

A MONTHLY REPORT OF CURRENT POLICIES,
OFFICIAL STATEMENTS AND STATISTICS

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THE JAPANESE SPIRIT

—Its Significance with Reference to the China Affair—

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

RECENT developments have shown clearly that the new phase of the China Affair which has now been inaugurated is of far greater significance and of a more positive and constructive nature than the previous phase of the struggle. Japan's first policy adopted reluctantly toward the Nationalist Government and its armed forces was to deal them a punishing blow in the hope that they would realize the disastrous error of their anti-Japanism and return to a sane course of action by promoting friendship and collaboration between the two countries.

Yet the Nationalist Government and the Chinese troops persisted in their blindness ; even so decisive a blow as the fall of Nanking has failed to awaken them to the seriousness of their plight. They have entrenched themselves within the far interior of China, and, recruiting soldiers, importing arms and relying upon assistance from third Powers they are taking no notice of the devastation of their country nor of the distress of their people.

On January 16th, therefore, the Japanese Government issued its significant statement setting forth the irrevocable determination to deal no longer with the Nationalist Government. Briefly, Japan has given up all hope of negotiating peaceful settlement of the Affair with the Kuomintang and accordingly is looking forward to and assisting in the development of the new régime organized in North China as the Central Government of her neighbouring Republic, thereby striving for construction of a moral order in East Asia.

The ultimate purpose of Japan's present action in China, as has been officially and publicly reiterated, is solely to eliminate all the causes imperilling peace and security in East Asia so that the countries in that part of the world may enjoy the ideal of co-existence and common prosperity between themselves, while firmly establishing their independent national existence not only in their domestic life but also in their international relations. If we fail, therefore, in successfully settling the present affair, all of East Asia will be reduced to chaos with possible collisions of interests between Western Powers, and the very existence of Japan will be jeopardized. Hence the entire nation is called upon to rise unitedly to meet the emergency.

The Ideal of the Japanese People

The unselfish aims of the Japanese action on the Asiatic continent which rise far above territorial designs can best be comprehended against the background of the 2,600 years of Japan's glorious history. "The whole world as one family," the ideal which was set forth in the Imperial Message granted by the Emperor Jimmu, Founder of the Japanese Empire, on the occasion of His accession to the Throne, the ideal in accordance with which the Empire was founded, has always constituted the basis for the political principles in the internal as well as external relations in the national life of the Japanese people. "The whole world as one family" in terms of modern life means a state of existence in which individuals, peoples and nations have their respective, distinctive and rightful places in all phases of human life, thereby living independently but also in mutual assistance and friendly cooperation.

This is the ideal and spirit that, even in the current emergency, has been guiding the motives and actions of Japan. It is the conviction of the entire nation that the present Affair has been providential in affording an opportunity for realizing this lofty national ideal, which may prove in the end to be of the greatest benefit to the whole world. When viewed in this light, the China Affair constitutes the historic task bequeathed to modern Japanese by their forefathers. As loyal subjects, therefore, it is clearly our duty both toward our ancestors and our posterity that we should undertake this task—to future generations we must hand down the results of successful execution.

The spirit of whole-hearted devotion and grateful service to the State has been a glorious tradition of the Japanese people. The basic characteristic of Japan's national life lies in the coherent and coordinated unity wherein all subjects orient around the Imperial Throne occupied by a single dynasty from time immemorial. In the Japanese mind, it should be understood, there has been no conception of the individual as opposed to the State. All members of the nation have conceived themselves as parts of the State. Since they are parts, they should essentially be united into the whole which is the State, and to do their allotted tasks has been the way to be united within the State. In the face of the present crisis the only course for Japanese to follow is to embody this national spirit in their lives, a course of action that has appropriately been pursued since the beginning of the present Affair with the voluntary execution of the National Spiritual Mobilization Movement.

Since the outbreak of the Affair this traditional spirit has been

manifested in a most exalted way by the officers and men at the front as well as by the entire nation behind the lines, as reported in many inspiring episodes. One matter, however, arrests our particular attention.

Hitherto there have been types of ideas enthusiastically imported from the West which have not been fully refined. These types of Western ideas have certainly played their respective parts in developing the national life of Japan in the transitory phases of her modernization. Nevertheless, they contain in them elements essentially incompatible with the Japanese spirit.

Individuals not in the Abstract but in Reality

Underlying these types of Western ideas exists an individualistic view of life which conceives individuals as absolute, independent entities and on the basis of that concept tries to comprehend and judge all things. Individuals conceived as such, according to this view, constitute not only the standard of all values but themselves represent the highest value, toward the fullest development of which all men are called upon to strive. Such a conception of individuals naturally excludes the conception of the State as an entity transcending and producing individuals, the implications being that the State is merely an expedient union of such individuals and that its significance lies only in giving benefit to and serving them. If the State is nothing more than such an entity, individuals will accept it only so far as it is of benefit and service to themselves, and furthermore they will claim freedom to the fullest extent as individuals standing in opposition to the State.

Such a way of thinking can be accounted a basic error in the conception of the individual. Those conceived as individuals here are but abstract entities far remote from the realm of concrete human beings, the realm of realities. All human beings who are actually living in this world are entities which, while having their respective independent life and existence, depend, in a deeper sense, upon the whole and live in coordinated relationship with one another. They are, in reality, born from the State, sustained by the State, and brought up in the history and traditions of the State. In other words, individual men can exist essentially only as links in an infinite and vast chain of life which is called the State ; they are, in terms of time and history, links of life through whom the inheritance of ancestors since the foundation of the State is handed down to posterity, making possible continued growth and development in the future ; and, in terms of space, they are connecting links by which all the members of the

nation are united into the single entity of the State.

Such is the actual state of human existence, and when human beings are considered in such terms, the error of regarding them unqualifiedly as independent individuals forming the basis of all existing things, and as constituting the highest value is quite obvious. Individuals can actually participate in the highest and greatest value when they serve the State as parts of it, giving themselves up in order to return to and live in that higher and all-embracing life. This life of the highest value has been manifested, in the case of Japan, in the august virtue of the Imperial Throne ever since the foundation of the Empire. The highest life for the Japanese subject, therefore, is to offer himself in perfect loyalty to the Throne so that he may participate in Its glorious life.

To those who are under the dominant influence of the individualistic type of Western ideas, the way of life which has been set forth in these pages may mean the complete abandonment of self. What has been abandoned here, however, is only the smaller self. For a man to die in that smaller self is, in essential terms of human existence, to live in the greater self. By living according to this way of life man can enjoy the life of true freedom and of infinite possibilities. Once he attains to this higher plane of existence, his former life which centred in the smaller self will appear as a life extremely insignificant and valueless. Such may be the experience of the officers and men of the Imperial Army who are discharging their duty in the thick of the fight and under indescribable hardships and privations, and are thus offering themselves for the great national cause. Nor should the duty of the people on the home front differ in its essential nature of realizing the spirit and traditions of the Empire in their respective fields of activities.

Nothing short of the united endeavours of the entire nation for realizing this national ideal will, in reality, accomplish the National Spiritual Mobilization Movement. Moreover, it is our aspiration to make the most important, enduring contribution to the life and culture of the whole human race through the realization and promotion of this ideal of the Japanese people, the spirit of Japan.

ON THE LAW FOR AGRARIAN ADJUSTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

THAT agriculture is the foundation of a nation is an old saying still holding true today in spite of the expansion of urban areas and the high development in commerce and industry. In Japan approximately 5,600,000 households, 42.8% of the total, depend on agriculture for their livelihood. These produce the greater portion of the nation's foodstuffs; they supply various raw materials for industries. Such agricultural products as raw silk and tea contribute a great deal to the betterment of the international trade balance of Japan.

Likewise, the agrarian villages constitute, as a vast consuming market, the very basis for the continued existence and expansion of the nation's commerce and industry, while the young men of rural communities form the backbone of national defence and provide man-power for commercial, industrial and other undertakings. The thought life of the nation is stabilized by the farm. Hence, problems concerning farm land, such as ownership, tenancy, dimensions and related problems, have direct bearing not only on the livelihood of farmers, farm management and social economy in agrarian districts but also on all aspects of national life.

A survey of prevailing conditions in Japan Proper reveals that area under tillage averages a little over 1 chobu (about 2.45 acres) for each farming household. This average is made on the basis of figures including those for part-time farmers, but little variation is to be found between this average and that based on the figures for those devoting themselves exclusively to farming. The areas under tillage are very small in dimensions. Moreover, the number of independent farmers who own the land they till is limited to slightly over 30 per cent of the total, the remaining number being made up of tenant farmers who till land owned by others. Of the total area under cultivation, about 53 per cent is tilled by the owners, while slightly less than 47 per cent is under tenancy. The number of genuine tenant farmers who possess little or no land of their own stands at 27 per cent of the total number of farmers.

Due to this smallness of areas under tillage and the large proportion of land worked by tenants, and due to the fact that tenant arrangements have not often been in consonance with the actual conditions of farming villages, developments have been unsatisfactory

with respect to the stabilization of the livelihood of farmers and improvement and advance of agriculture. This situation, coupled with ideational elements, has tended to cause disputes between land-owners and tenant farmers in different districts. To ameliorate such undesirable conditions the Government adopted divergent remedial measures, including the promulgation and operation of the Law for Arbitration of Tenancy Disputes and the establishment of measures for the creation and maintenance of independent farmers. These measures served to alleviate the situation for a time, but in recent years the number of disputes has increased, affected by the prolonged economic depression and the frequent natural calamities.

These disputes increased conspicuously in connection with withdrawals of land from tenants after the latter had defaulted in payments of land rentals and with commencement by land-owners of tilling and disposal of their own land, and greater difficulties have been increasingly encountered in settling the disputes. This is indeed regrettable not only for the welfare of individual farmers and their communities but for the entire nation as well. Thus it is truly important to adjust and improve the farm land arrangements. Especially, when consideration is given to the present emergency and its possible aftermath it is considered most urgent to plan for the stabilization and improvement of the standard of living of farmers and for the maintenance and promotion of the agricultural productive capacity in order to attain economic recovery and advance of the agrarian communities and to maintain peace among farmers. For these purposes, it is imperative to adopt feasible measures immediately to adjust and improve affairs directly related to farm land.

With respect to the adjustment and improvement in affairs relating to farm land, there are many matters which can be realized through the awakening of and cooperation among the farming populace. It is necessary for the Government to attempt to increase the number of independent farmers and areas of farm land tilled by owners by expanding the existing measures for the creation and maintenance of independent farmers. At the same time it is necessary to exploit undeveloped areas, to improve farm land and water utilization facilities for agriculture and to set up various other measures. Thus the Government is endeavouring to adopt effective measures as far as circumstances permit; regarding the establishment and maintenance of independent farmers, the Government more than doubled the appropriations in 1936, and set up a system under which cities, towns, villages and other public organizations may be authorized to own and manage land temporarily for the purpose of creating independent farmers, and also a system of subsidizing and encouraging the exploitation of

undeveloped land for the same purpose. Again, facilities for settling farm debts have also been expanded, while many other measures have been put into operation for the maintenance of farms. However, legal arrangements are required in many cases to supplement these devices. Accordingly, a draft of the Law for Agrarian Adjustment was prepared and introduced at the present session of the Imperial Diet.

Outline of the Proposed Law

Conditions of farming villages naturally differ according to localities, especially in regard to farm earnings; it is extremely difficult to provide generalized and summarized rules governing detailed conditions in different farm villages. In view of these circumstances, the provisions of the proposed Law are confined to matters fundamental and common to different localities, leaving matters of detail to the commissions on farm land which are to be created in cities, towns, villages and prefectures and to a system of arbitration. These commissions and the arbitration system are to function, with mutual concessions and cooperation among the persons concerned, to adopt and carry out concrete and appropriate measures in strict consonance with actual conditions of the respective localities, for the adjustment of affairs related to farm land.

The principal points in the proposed Law for Agrarian Adjustment may be listed as follows:

Firstly, the Law provides for a system under which cities, towns, villages or other appropriate public organizations may, on request, manage, protect or utilize farm land in behalf of farmers who, because of military service or other reasons, are unable to till or manage their own land or leased land. Or, these organizations may buy up such land and dispose of it in line with the purpose of creating independent farmers and other principles governing the plans for the adjustment of farm land.

Secondly, the proposed Law provides that, when prefectures, cities, towns, villages or other appropriate organizations attempt to acquire or use land necessary for the purposes of creating independent farmers, or of possessing it for lending, with a view to attaining economic recovery of farming villages, they may negotiate, on approval by the competent administrative authorities, with owners of such land or those who possess the real rights over it, regarding transfer of the land or setting up of rights over earnings from the land. In case such negotiations fail to bring about an agreement, they may ask for legal arbitration. Furthermore, in case the above-

mentioned organizations attempt to exploit undeveloped land, such land may be acquired for them by applying the Law of Expropriation of Land, after negotiations with the owners have failed.

Again, in view of the necessity of preventing tenant disputes and other undesirable developments arising out of the consolidation or disposal of land for the economic recovery of farm villages, the proposed Law provides that the competent administrative authorities, in case of necessity, may cause cities, towns, villages or other organizations to announce their plans in advance to the Commissions on Farm Land of their respective localities, so that the latter may have an opportunity of creating independent farmers or of making other feasible arrangements.

Thirdly, with respect to independent farm land created or maintained by Government subsidy or other aid, it is so provided that sales or transfer of the land and setting up of the real rights on it by the owner shall be legally invalid, unless approval has been given by the authorities, and the owner shall be required to register the land strictly in line with this particular provision. This arrangement serves to enable the land owner to protect himself against a third party regarding the land.

Fourthly, the proposed Law provides the following means of insuring and stabilizing the livelihood of tenant farmers :

(1) Contract for lease of farm land entered into between two parties shall be valid against a third party even if such a contract is not registered. Hence, the contract of the lease shall not be affected by transfer of the ownership of the land due to sale or other reasons, or by mortgage rights or real rights that may be set up.

(2) The land owner may not cancel a contract of lease of that land without consent of the lessee or refuse to renew the contract at its expiry, except in cases when the lessee without good reason defaults in payment of the rent or commits perfidious acts, or when the land owner becomes obliged to cultivate the land himself or to use the land for building dwelling houses or for other justifiable purposes, or when the land owner, for good reasons, becomes unable to continue to keep the land under tenancy.

(3) When a contracting party intends to cancel the lease of the farm land or to refuse the renewal of it, he shall be required to notify the other contracting party of such intention six months or one year in advance. At the same time he shall notify the Commission on Farm Land of the respective city, town or village so that the matter may be arranged as smoothly as possible.

Even in normal times it is necessary to settle tenant disputes rationally and as swiftly as possible in accordance with actual conditions, but this is especially true in this time of emergency. The proposed Law, therefore, provides the following measures :

(1) Officials in charge of tenant disputes shall be authorized to place disputes under arbitration in accordance with the Tenancy Arbitration Law whenever such action is deemed necessary for the public welfare. Law courts shall also be authorized to place under arbitration any judicial case relating to tenant farms.

(2) When the Court deems arbitration necessary, it may, after consulting the officials in charge of tenant disputes, issue orders requiring the parties involved to keep the crops on the disputed land unchanged or keep the land rentals in custody, or issue orders regarding cultivation of the land during the period of negotiation so that the arbitration may be successfully concluded.

(3) In case arbitration of a tenant dispute fails, the Court may, after due consideration based strictly on the actual circumstances and after consulting the officials in charge of tenant disputes and the commission on farm land, resort to juridical proceedings in order to achieve a fair solution of the dispute.

Fifthly, the proposed Law also provides for the settlement of agrarian disputes other than those relating to tenancy. In regard to the utilization of farm land other than tenant farms, disputes may arise in connection with relations with adjoining land. It is necessary to settle such disputes rationally, smoothly, swiftly and in a simple manner on the basis of the actual conditions. For such purposes, the proposed Law provides for a system under which the commission on farm land may adjust matters as in cases of tenant land disputes while the Courts shall also be authorized to arbitrate the disputes according to the methods applied to tenant land.

Sixthly, the proposed Law provides for the establishment in different cities, towns, villages and prefectures, of commissions on farm land, which, in addition to the affairs referred to above, shall deal with matters connected with the creation and maintenance of independent farmers, exploitation of uncultivated land, transfer and consolidation of farm land, tenant relationships and various other questions relating to farm land, on the basis of local governmental conditions.

FACTS CONCERNING SOVIET OUTRAGES

—Oppressive Acts on Japanese Diplomatic Establishments and Commercial Rights and Interests—

BUREAU OF INFORMATION, DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

OPPRESSIVE acts by the Soviet Government against Japanese diplomatic establishments and commercial rights and interests have recently become increasingly severe. In tracing the development of these acts, they are seen to have begun with fishery rights. With the execution of the five-year plan in 1928, the Moscow Government set about exterminating foreign rights and interests, and as a result Japanese fishery rights in Kamchatka and oil and coal rights in North Sakhalin have been placed, with definite designs, under its oppressive measures. Since the conclusion of the Japanese-German Agreement against the Comintern, furthermore, Japanese diplomatic establishments as well have been subjected to the same measures, which have been gradually intensified. Instances of such acts on the part of the Soviet authorities are outlined here.

On the Embassy at Moscow

The Japanese Embassy at Moscow is under strict observation not only by a police force permanently stationed in front of the building but also by about 12 agents of the G. P. U. in plain clothes, some of whom are stationed in offices disguised as stores. No visitors to the Embassy escape their scrutiny; even the Ambassador, counsellor, and military attaché are closely followed by them. These representatives of the Japanese Government, when they go out by automobile, will be followed by a car stationed nearby for that purpose by the G. P. U.; and, when on foot, they will be followed by an agent who keeps himself at a regular distance of several meters. In addition, travel within Soviet territories is almost prohibitive for Japanese diplomatic agents. One attaché, when travelling to South Russia in January, 1938, could not get hotel accommodations and returned to the Embassy broken in health. A chancellor, when travelling through Central Asia, was interfered with in a similar way by the Soviet authorities.

Nor are Russian employees of the Embassy, even the maids, free from outrageous treatment on the part of the authorities. A servant

by the name of Milonof was suddenly arrested in February, 1937, and a door-keeper by the name of Petvsky has been missing since last September. These incidents have been sufficient to make the employees extremely uneasy, and two of them asked for dismissal of their own accord. Lately, a charwoman in the Embassy, a maid in an interpreter's home who lived outside, and a caretaker of the Ambassador's country house have been taken to the police stations ; their present whereabouts are unknown.

Those Russians who frequent the Embassy are especially watched. It is therefore well-nigh impossible for the Embassy staff to make contact with Russians at large. To employ language teachers for the study of Russian, and even to employ physician's services in case of illness are extremely difficult, if not altogether impossible.

The Japanese protest against such outrages the Soviet Commissariat for Foreign Affairs would flatly turn down on grounds that these employees are Soviet citizens and that the Government is under no obligation to inform the Japanese Embassy concerning what it had done to Soviet citizens.

Thus it may be seen how the Soviet Government has acted in flagrant disregard of the status of the Japanese Embassy, from which it can be inferred that oppressions of local authorities upon Japanese consular establishments would be far more unbearable. Actually, there have been many such cases, instances of which are stated below.

On Consular Establishments

At Vladivostok policemen stand guard at entrances of the consulate-general and consular residences, keeping close watch over visitors ; consular officials are of course followed when they go out. Worst of all, when members of the consulate become ill, the services of physicians cannot be obtained directly. The only way to secure medical services is through the local Soviet diplomatic representative, a roundabout way which has been found ineffective in urgent cases. When a vice-consul was appointed last year to take the place of the consul-general who was returning to Japan on account of illness, he could not proceed to his post in time, to the hindrance of execution of consular affairs, simply because the Soviet Government held back his visé.

With regard to outrages in connection with consular employees, in March, 1937, the wife of an employee, a Polish by birth but a Soviet citizen, was arrested without good reason ; in September the door-keeper of the residence of the Vladivostok staff was subjected to similar treatment, and a maid employed by the vice-consul suddenly

disappeared. Moreover, owing to the strict surveillance of those who frequent the consulate-general, whether visitors or tradesmen, and to the troublesome methods of examination on the part of the authorities, a Chinese who supplied the establishment with water has refused the supply since last November. The local Soviet diplomatic representative here again made evasive replies, saying that he was under no obligation to explain the arrest of those employed by the Japanese Consulate-General.

At Habarovsk the police set up a guard station adjoining the consulate-general, facilitating them in carrying out close watch. Here, not only the consular staff but also the Chinese employees are followed. A Russian janitor was arrested in April, 1937, and his wife was taken into custody in August, followed by the arrest of the wife of the door-keeper who is a Russian. Thus the consulate-general is practically isolated from the outside world. As for physicians, their services are secured only through the introduction of the local diplomatic representative. This representative, however, has tried, since last October, to avoid coming in contact with the consulate-general as much as possible. His sole connection with the Japanese representative has been to put visés on the passports. Other matters for negotiation he is afraid even to pass on to the authorities concerned.

At Blagovestchensk an illumination apparatus has been installed near the Consulate and has been kept in regular use by the police. The strictness of their watch can be realized by the fact that since the end of last year more than ten different police officers have stood on duty in front of the building and followed members of the consular staff whenever they went out. As a police officer follows the Japanese agents wherever they go, it happens not infrequently that when they seek to buy certain kinds of commodities, the store-keeper is ordered by the officer to refuse to sell them. With regard to the execution of consular affairs also, considerable inconveniences are experienced on the part of the Japanese, as no one has been appointed to take the place of the Soviet diplomatic representative stationed there who was dismissed about last October. This means that there has been no one in Blagovestchensk who is responsible for local foreign affairs. Besides, communications between the city and Heiho, Manchoukuo, have become impossible, adding to the aggravation of the general situation.

As in other cities, employees of the consulate have been arrested with no good reason and no one can be employed to take their places due to the interference of the G. P. U. As the regular visitors of the consulate are closely watched and explicitly

threatened to sever their connections with the Japanese, the physician is frequently afraid to come, the milkman has ceased to supply milk, and workmen for repairing the building can be employed only through the diplomatic representative, who is now absent from his post.

At Novo-Sibirsk the Japanese consulate was compelled to close last September simultaneously with that at Odessa. The situation prior to this step was somewhat similar to that in other places: besides the police officers on duty, two or three agents of the G. P. U. kept strict watch day and night and would follow the members of the staff most pertinaciously wherever they went.

The situation at Odessa was no better. The consulate could not get the services of tailors, language teachers and workmen, as in other places, on account of the strict watch exercised by the G. P. U.

The circumstances under which the Japanese diplomatic establishments in these two cities were compelled to close were certainly unbelievable as taking place in a civilized world. The Soviet Government notified the two consulates that it would cease to recognize their functioning as diplomatic establishments after September 15, 1937. And at the same time it began to apply oppressive measures such as refusal to accept telegraphic messages in the Japanese official code, discontinuance of supply of gas, water and electricity, suspension of delivery of foreign mail, arrest of the employees, and withholding of the visés for the departure of foreign nationals in the employ of the consulates. Under such pressure the Japanese Government could take no other step than to close the consulates temporarily.

At Alexandrovsk and Oha similar situations have prevailed. Watch over the consulates has become increasingly strict, with police officers placed on duty day and night, thus keeping Russians from coming in contact with the Japanese. Newspapers and magazines coming from Japan are all opened by censors; some of them have been delivered with incomplete contents. At Oha the daily newspaper, an organ of the local government, was not delivered for some time around September, 1937, on the pretext of shortage of copies. This and other matters the Soviet diplomatic representative would not try to settle locally, avoiding any and all responsibilities.

On Commercial Rights and Interests

The actions of the Soviet authorities toward Japanese rights and interests in North Sakhalin have been outrageous. The North Sakhalin Mining Company has experienced serious difficulties in

the attempted revision of the collective labour contract which had expired in March, 1936. The Soviet Government, proposing many impossible conditions, showed an unconciliatory attitude from the first. Despite concessions on the part of the mining company, the conference had to adjourn without reaching any agreement after more than 40 sessions, and the Japanese delegation was forced to leave for home. As to this collective labour contract, moreover, the Japanese Ambassador at Moscow has been making efforts for amicable settlement, by taking the matter up with the Soviet authorities on due occasions, but his efforts have not as yet proved successful.

The coaling vessels of the company have hitherto been exempted from harbour dues. The Soviet Harbour Department, however, gave notification in May, 1937, that the vessels were under obligation to pay dues on vessels and cargoes in accordance with the provisions of the convention concerning such rights and interests. Consequently, the Japanese Government has requested the Soviet Government to reconsider the matter, pointing out the fact that it was a step unwarranted from the point of view not only of the correct interpretation of the provisions of the convention but also of the established practices and actual convenience. This question has also remained unsettled up to this date.

The state of affairs has been aggravated particularly since 1937 as demonstrated in the following :

1. Employees who are working in the mines of the North Sakhalin Mining Company have been tried and sentenced to penal servitude for trifling matters, or arrested and detained indefinitely on charges of espionage. These oppressive measures have caused considerable uneasiness among the Japanese employees, with the result that an increasing number of them have sought to return to Japan.
2. Last year 192 Japanese workers, all of whom were operatives required for the 1937 summer work, could not enter the country on account of refusal by the Soviet authorities of passport visés.
3. The authorities have restricted the import of necessary commodities and demanded the lowering of their selling prices.

These acts have dealt a serious blow to the enterprise, rendering it impossible for the company to continue the operation of business. To protest against injustices and to accomplish the desired ends the Japanese Government has continually instructed its Ambassador at Moscow and the consul on the spot to negotiate with the Soviet authorities. The Soviet Government, however,

has either purposely postponed settlement by diplomatic negotiations on the pretext that matters come under the category of judicial power or has refused to take them up with the Japanese representative on the ground that the question of interpreting the convention concerning foreign rights and interests is outside the province of diplomatic negotiations. The authorities on the spot, moreover, have taken these steps to hinder the operation of the enterprise legitimately founded upon commercial rights, driving the mining company into a plight in which it is forced to make drastic reductions in its business activities.

Soviet interference with the undertakings of the North Sakhalin Petroleum Company must also be noted in this connection. This company, in accordance with the convention concerning Japanese commercial rights and interests, has been employing in the Soviet Union a number of workers necessary for its summer undertakings. In 1937 it applied to the Soviet authorities for employment of 2,870 men, and at the same time applied for the entrance of 747 men from Japan in conformity with the ratio stipulated in the convention. The Soviet authorities, however, gave permission for only 528 workers from Japan, withholding permission for 219, a step which is utterly in disregard of the stipulated ratio. As the scarcity of labour is an important problem in the execution of undertakings, the Japanese Government instructed the Embassy at Moscow and the consulate on the spot to make efforts for safeguarding its rights. These efforts, however, were unsuccessful as the Soviet Government simply dodged the question.

Another case of Soviet interference was in connection with the functioning of the Japanese wireless station at Oha where a Japanese petroleum plant is being operated. The right of establishing the station and its use by Japanese petroleum interests have been provided for in the Japanese-Soviet Basic Treaty, the Agreements between the Commander of the Japanese Army which was in occupation of North Sakhalin and the Soviet Commission for taking over the territory, and the Convention Concerning Petroleum Rights, pending the conclusion of the new agreement between the two Governments. On that basis the petroleum company had been operating the wireless station without any trouble. The Soviet Government, however, suddenly notified the Japanese Embassy in May, 1937, that the wireless station at Oha should be closed, on grounds that its maintenance is in violation of the present law of the Soviet Union and that its equipment is not in accord with the Madrid Treaty of 1932 concerning international electric communications. Against this step the Japanese Govern-

ment protested through its Ambassador at Moscow, refuting it on the basis of aforementioned agreements. The Moscow Government, as in other cases, persisted in its own views, and on September 4th notified the station to discontinue its operation, thus compelling it to close up.

Such are the brief accounts of recent cases of Soviet oppression upon Japanese rights and interests. It is regrettable indeed to note that the insincere and even inhuman character of these outrages is aggravating Japanese-Soviet relations which are already sufficiently strained.

PENAL ADMINISTRATION TODAY

BUREAU OF PENAL ADMINISTRATION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CRIME that continuously threatens society is combatted by various agencies within the Department of Justice. In order to preserve social order which crime menaces and to protect the lives and property of individuals which it endangers, judicial police are engaged in the first-line work of detection of offences and arrest of criminals. Public procurators conduct the necessary search for and examination of the latter and prosecute cases to be punished upon which the law courts render verdicts after due deliberation. Responsibility then rests upon the penal administrative system to mete out penalties on criminals found guilty by incarceration in prisons.

Apart from these different systems, various organizations for judicial protection exist in order to shelter and guide those who are absolved from guilt by police or public procurators, those who are granted respite from the law courts, and those who are released from prison either on probation or after serving their sentences.

These systems are so designed as to work together in rectifying wrong, in reforming criminals and in checking the rise in crime. For these purposes penal justice is administered. Of course, penalties in the traditional manner are still being prescribed for the partial purpose of causing criminals to suffer for their sins. But in view of the fact that in modern times society or social defects are often found responsible for not a few criminal cases, penal justice has now come to be administered not only to punish criminals but also to serve in large measure in eliminating and preventing crimes by watching over offenders and leading them to make a new start in life. Hence, penal justice is in a sense aimed at the moral purification of people rather than at the mere punishment of wrongdoers.

Objectives of Penal Administration

The main purpose of penal administration is, of course, to intern criminals found guilty in the law courts within prison walls in order to bar them securely from society. Some of the criminals are made to labour partly for the purpose of enabling them to work on their return to society by inculcating the industrial spirit in them, and partly for the purpose of making the offenders pay as much as pos-

sible toward the State expenditures for maintaining them in prisons, thereby lightening the tax burden of the nation.

Prisons employ religious leaders or men of high virtue as prison chaplains, while all officials take it upon themselves personally to educate and influence the criminals under their charge. Thus, in the penal administration of today all conceivable efforts are made to make criminals repentant and to qualify them to become members of the national community of law-abiding people.

Classification of Prisons

Prisons are officially classified into four different kinds according to the nature of penalties administered and for other considerations. These include those for imprisonment with labour, those for imprisonment only, those for internment and those for detention, the last-named institution being intended for the accommodation of criminal suspects and criminal defendants before they are found guilty. Besides these prisons there are special places where people who have been fined are detained and put to work to pay off their fines in case they have not been able to pay such fines in cash.

Within the same category of prisons, the convicts are accommodated according to the length of their sentences or the number of sentences they have previously served; those serving similar sentences or having similar criminal experiences are accommodated collectively with the result that much convenience is afforded in their education and labour. Convicts are also housed according to sex, prisons for men being separated from those for women. Those under age or those advanced in age are also separated from the others. Strict moral conditions and discipline are enforced in all the different prisons, while in juvenile penal administration, primary education as well as physical and military training is given to the convicts. Those advanced in age are put to light labour in order to make their prison life as bearable as possible. Those serving sentences for ideational offences, invalid convicts or those suffering from illness are sometimes accommodated collectively in their own groups. In all different cases every possible effort is made to give the convicts the most appropriate accommodation and to rectify and improve them.

The different categories of accommodation are usually found within different sections of the same prisons in provincial districts, although in metropolitan areas separate prisonhouses are to be found in different localities. For example, in Tokyo Prefecture are the Tokyo Detention Prison, the Kosuge Prison for those serving

long sentences, the Fuchu Prison for those with previous prison records, the Toyotama Prison for first offenders, and the Hachioji Juvenile Prison for juvenile offenders, those with mental perversions in particular.

Prison Personnel, Prisoners and Administrative Expenditures

Under the jurisdiction of the Department of Justice there are at present in Japan 43 regular prisons, 104 branch prisons and 9 juvenile prisons making a total of 156. Prison officials number more than 9,000, including prison governors, assistant governors, chief warders and warders, engineers and assistant engineers, prison chaplains and instructors, physicians and their assistants, and other officials and employees.

The total number of those incarcerated in all the prisons of the country changes daily but was approximately 54,500 at the end of July, 1937. Of this number about 50,400 were convicts serving sentences and about 3,600 were criminal suspects and criminal defendants awaiting verdicts, the remaining 500 being those who were detained to work off their fines. Of the same total, approximately 53,600 were male and 900 female according to classification by sex.

The prison expenditure of this country was estimated to amount to ¥18,764,400 in 1936, or about ¥326 per capita for the prisoners who numbered approximately 57,400 on the average day in 1936. Thus, crimes not only inflict spiritual and material harm on the people but also make them bear the expenses. This consideration will show the importance of the part played by the State in preventing crimes.

Progressive Treatment

The system of progressive treatment which was inaugurated in January, 1934, may well be said to form a new feature of penal administration in Japan. This system is so designed as to give as much freedom as possible to the convicts and let the latter lead prison lives approximating the realities of society to the greatest possible extent. Thus, convicts are gradually allowed to enjoy a wider scope of freedom befitting their behaviour. Some of them are allowed to send letters, others to see visitors and still others to read books and buy the daily necessities. Those allowed the widest scope of freedom may take part in sports and go out for walks in groups. They are also allowed to walk about by themselves within fixed areas on the prison premises, their cell doors are left unlocked

and they are permitted to wear ordinary clothes or gray working suits. In this manner the well-behaved convicts are gradually trained to adapt themselves for social life with a view to making them fit to be released on probation and to return to society before serving their full sentences. The introduction of this system of progressive treatment has done much to encourage the convicts in exercising self-discipline and hold down violations of prison regulations and other misdemeanours liable to disciplinary punishment.

Releases on Probation

The ultimate objective of penal administration is, as explained above, to rectify and improve the convicts and return them to society as decent members of the nation. Therefore, in case certain convicts prove sufficiently repentant and improved in behaviour and are thought entirely harmless to society, it is not always advisable further to detain them in isolation. It is for this consideration that the system of releases on probation has been introduced as a means of attaining the ultimate objective of penal administration. According to this system, any convict who has served one-third of his or her sentence with a clean record and is found after careful investigation by the prison authorities concerned to be qualified to enjoy the privilege of this system, may be released from prison on probation after obtaining the approval of the Minister of Justice. Such a convict is considered to have served the rest of his or her sentence if he or she passes the probationary period without any misdemeanour for which this privilege is subject to cancellation.

Those who are released on probation on the strength of this system continue to increase in number year after year. In 1936, those released totalled more than 5,300. When the North China Incident broke out in 1937, many convicts received orders for military service, and steps were taken speedily to release on probation many of them who were found fit both mentally and physically for service in the army in order to give them the opportunity of doing their duty as soldiers of the Empire. Feeling sincerely grateful to the Throne for the privilege thus extended, these soldiers departed valiantly for the front much to the admiration of those who were acquainted with the circumstances. This episode may be remembered as an instance of no small import in connection with penal administration.

Administrative Practices

Since it is the duty of the prisons to administer penalties, they must be administered sternly. However, convicts must be led to repent of their offences and voluntarily seek to return to decent living. In the first place, therefore, convicts must be properly isolated and made to observe strict discipline, and in the second they must be so treated as to preserve their health, cultivate their virtues and receive vocational training. Details of penal administration are explained below.

(a) Guarding

Peace preservation and policing duties within prison walls are known as "guarding." Prisoners must be guarded and protected constantly to prevent their escaping, committing suicide or violating prison regulations. The duties of guarding are painstaking, complicated and difficult, particularly since the inmates differ one from another in nature and temperament. Moreover, it is also within the duties of guarding to educate prisoners and to give them moral influence.

(b) Labour

Occupational work by prisoners has developed gradually with proportionate increases in proceeds from services rendered. The pace of development has been such that it is anticipated that the time will eventually come when these proceeds will be sufficient to pay for the upkeep of prisons. However, labour in prisons is carried on solely for the purpose of educating and improving the inmates rather than for the purpose of making profits. Therefore, the proceeds of prison work are to be regarded merely as an automatic outcome of labour. The occupations which are being engaged in within the prisons vary widely according to different localities of the country, the total number of such occupations reaching several hundred. Different occupations are introduced for the purpose of qualifying the inmates to have the widest possible choice of occupations after release. When the convicts are allowed to engage in occupations, their own previous experiences and their preferences as well as examinations by psychologists are considered before assigning them to different kinds of work, in which the convicts are trained by experts and other suitable instructors. For their labour, the convicts receive due wages and bonuses, which they may use as capital for their occupations after leaving prison.

The cheap and abundant labour available in prisons makes the

cost of production comparatively small for prison workers, and this fact is often criticized as bringing pressure to bear on outside industries. In view of such criticisms, the workers in prisons are usually made to engage in the production of supplies for Government offices and public institutions, thereby avoiding interfering with the activities of small-scale factories and merchants. However, opposition by small industrialists should not be allowed to prevent convicts from receiving training in useful occupations. For this reason, they are trained in the production of various goods whenever orders are received for such goods, besides meeting the demand for necessary supplies for the various offices under the jurisdiction of the Department of Justice.

(c) Moral Education

Prison chaplains and instructors are employed to cultivate the virtues of inmates collectively. Additionally, the chaplains and instructors try to improve individual convicts through personal associations. At the same time the convicts are instructed in the various branches of primary learning, juvenile convicts being given military training under the supervision of army officers. Convicts are also encouraged to read educational books and periodicals. From time to time, educational or amusing motion pictures are shown to them, while convicts are also often allowed to hear gramophone music or listen to radio broadcasts. Noted soldiers and prominent men are invited to give lectures to prison inmates on various anniversaries of national importance. All these efforts are made for the sole purpose of giving moral education.

Special attention is paid to the encouragement of religious worship, ancestor worship and national ideals in the prisons. For this purpose, a place of worship is provided for the inmates. On the four major national ceremonial days, Imperial Rescripts are read to the convicts, who sing the national anthem and the ceremonial day song on each occasion. Prison governors and chaplains take these occasions to give solemn lectures of moral nature, recounting the founding of the nation by the Imperial Ancestors and the benevolence of the Imperial Family with a view to giving the convicts a deep realization of the national polity and national spirit. Therefore, the convicts have recently become noticeably national-minded and willing to reflect upon their past. After the outbreak of the China Affair, many of them volunteered to engage in munitions industries or sent contributions to the national defence fund and otherwise expressed their strong patriotism as men "behind the

lines." Thus it is gratifying to note that prisoners have recently made great progress in moral education.

(d) Preservation of Health

Particular attention is also paid to health preservation and hygiene among prison-inmates, each prison being equipped with a medical aid room with hospital accommodation, attended by physicians and their assistants, so that the convicts are given sufficient access to medical examination and treatment. Food is so prepared as to be as nutritious as possible despite the limited funds available for the board of convicts. Furthermore, the inmates are called out of doors once in the morning and once again in the afternoon during recesses to take part in walking, singing of war songs in chorus and physical exercises with a view to exposing them to the rays of the sun and to fresh air. Thus all sorts of efforts are made to preserve and promote the health of the inmates and to improve their physique as well as their morale.

CONCERNING THE NANKING INCIDENT

—Mr. Koki Hirota's Note to Mr. Joseph C. Grew,
dated February 12, 1938.—

I HAVE the honour to state to Your Excellency that careful perusal has been made of Your Excellency's Note No. 866, dated January 17th, notifying the occurrence of various cases of infringement of American interests by Japanese forces during their recent military operations in Nanking, Hangchow and other places.

The Japanese Government has steadfastly pursued its policy, as repeatedly declared on various occasions, of respecting as far as possible the rights and interests in China of the United States and other third Powers. In view of the unfortunate incident that occurred last December, it again issued, as Your Excellency knows by my Note of December 24th, strictest orders to the Japanese authorities in China to devote their attention still more closely than before to the matter of those rights and interests. It is, therefore, with most profound regret that, despite these steps taken by it, the Japanese Government received the above-mentioned Note of Your Excellency's. Orders were immediately sent to the Japanese authorities on the spot to conduct thoroughgoing investigations, as a result of which the following circumstances have so far become clear.

In Nanking various cases have been found which are considered as having occurred on account of inadequate control in the city due to the unavoidable insufficiency of forces detailed to the duty of protecting the rights and interests of third Powers as well as to general police purposes, the insufficiency being caused by the frequent movements of the troops in the front lines, the shifting of units, and the work of clearing the city of the remnants of the defeated Chinese forces and of lawless Chinese elements.

The Japanese Government therefore once more dispatched rigorous instructions on the 15th and the 20th of January with the object of making their above-mentioned orders thoroughly understood by all the authorities concerned, and in the meantime they and, in an especial degree, the highest command of the fighting services, have with extraordinary concern been doing their utmost for a satisfactory settlement of the affairs in question, by causing the authorities on the spot to establish the facts in every case as clearly and promptly as possible, and then to deal appropriately with responsible parties

according to military law and to make restitution for damages. As there remain certain points requiring further investigation, the Foreign Office authorities and the Army authorities on the spot are now earnestly endeavouring to establish the facts of each case. As regards compensation for loss and damage, it is the intention of the Government to let such matters be settled as far as possible on the spot, and for this purpose they have been maintaining intimate contact with the American authorities there. I trust that Your Excellency is already aware of these matters.

With respect to Hangchow, the Japanese forces which occupied the city on the 22nd December last year, found their supplies from the rear temporarily cut off and they were obliged to obtain provisions on the spot, which necessarily had to be requisitioned due to the flight of the inhabitants. Prior to their entry into Hangchow, however, the Japanese military authorities had given strict instructions to the commanders of all units regarding the protection of the rights and interests of third Powers, and furthermore, at the time of their entry, they sent gendarmes to post notices on the buildings belonging to the nationals of third Powers, in order to ensure their protection. Nevertheless, in view of the fact that the requisitioning of provisions had to be effected at night, with fighting still in progress, they might have failed to recognize such notices and flags, and furthermore, by reason of the fact that the buildings of the nationals of third Powers were intermingled with those of the Chinese, and that there were no owners to be found in the houses in question, it is possible that some of the requisitioning squads made mistakes in identifying these objects. At the same time, the fact should be noted that there were at the time numerous cases of looting and destruction committed by Chinese rabbles, taking advantage of the prevalent confusion. The difficulty of ascertaining the facts in circumstances such as these will be easily understood.

In the circumstances stated above, if there were cases of Japanese soldiers at Hangchow entering by mistake houses owned by the nationals of third Powers, the purpose of such entry was either the requisition of food or a search for the remnants of Chinese troops, as a necessary measure incident to the conduct of military operations. The military authorities, as the result of a rigid investigation, discovered no evidence to show that any thing whatever other than food-stuffs had been removed from these houses.

A protest is made in Your Excellency's Note on the part of the United States Government on the ground that it had received reports alleging that there had occurred improper acts on the part of Japanese soldiers toward American flags. Deeming it greatly regrettable if,

indeed, there had been such occurrences, the Japanese authorities on the spot, requesting the American authorities in Shanghai and Nanking to submit concrete data on these cases, have been conducting thoroughgoing investigations regarding the matter. With reference to the report that on December 13th, Japanese soldiers at Wuhu pulled down and threw into the Yangtze an American flag from a Chinese boat belonging to the American-owned General Hospital at Wuhu, investigations have been made among the troops which were in that city at the time of the reported incident, as a result of which it has been established that no Japanese soldiers have either been involved in, or aware of, the occurrence of any incident of this sort. Besides, an American connected with the said hospital is reported to have stated that, although he had, in the circumstances then existing, presumed the case to be due to the act of Japanese soldiers, he had by no means actually witnessed the facts, such as the throwing of an American flag into the river. Of these facts, I believe, Your Excellency is aware, since they have already been communicated to the American Consul-General at Shanghai by the Japanese Consul-General. Our authorities have been earnestly conducting further investigations in other places than Wuhu, but so far no evidence has been found. The Japanese Government, with a view especially to bringing home to the minds of all troops the importance of respecting the American national emblem, has ordered that its instructions in that regard be transmitted to every unit in China.

In view of the circumstances stated above, the Japanese Government is studying how it can elaborate effective and adequate measures that can be put in force as soon as possible so as to put a definite stop to any occurrence of similar events. Meanwhile, it has taken, in addition to the various measures already in force, other steps including, (1) the dispatch to the spot of a high officer from Tokyo in order to insure the full execution of the instructions mentioned above, (2) the stationing of special officers at important points in China to take charge of matters relating to the rights and interests of third Powers, and (3) the reinforcement of the military police in China.

I beg Your Excellency to convey to your Government the earnest intention of the Japanese Government as stated above to devote its best efforts toward the prevention of any recurrence of these incidents in future.

THE SITUATION IN CHINA

I

—ADVANCE OF THE IMPERIAL ARMY—

PRESS SECTION, WAR DEPARTMENT

ON the Shantung front, the Japanese forces succeeded in crossing the Yellow River and controlling the whole province of Shantung except a small portion lying to the south. On the Honan and Shansi fronts, however, the Japanese troops had been awaiting an opportunity for some time to resume their drive, refraining from vigorous military operations. On February 11th, Empire Day, the Japanese forces launched a general offensive along the Peking-Hankow, the Tatung-Puchow and the Peking-Suiyuan Railways. Their fierce onslaughts resulted in driving more than 40 enemy divisions to the right bank of the Yellow River.

The Peking-Hankow Railway Front

The Japanese troops along the Peking-Hankow Railway had been taking a deserved rest for some time, but early in February they resumed operations in the area east of the railway. The Sakanishi detachment started from its base on the morning of February 7th. After defeating some 130 Chinese troops which had taken up positions in the suburbs of Nanlo at the southern extremity of Hopei Province, this unit stormed the walled city and occupied it at 5:10 o'clock that afternoon, after routing about 500 Chinese soldiers.

At 8 a.m., February 8th, the detachment drove further south and occupied Tsingfeng, after defeating 700 Chinese. The detachment continued its southern push and took Puyang on February 9th, after dispersing about 1,000 Chinese soldiers. At noon, February 11th, the detachment reached Liangmen. It succeeded in taking Changyuan at 11 a.m., February 13th.

The same detachment left Changyuan on the morning of February 15th and entered Fengkiu without meeting any resistance. The Chinese troops fled from Fengkiu toward evening. Hotly pursuing the enemy, the Sakanishi detachment took Yangwu, west of Fengkiu, the following evening. The unit then started a drive on Sinsiang to outflank the enemy.

The main body of the Japanese forces along the Peking-Hankow Railway, which had been standing by at Changteh in northern Honan Province started operations on February 10th and occupied Fengchiachiao, 12 kilometres southwest of Changteh, and Niang-niangmiao, 4 kilometres southwest of Changteh, where they were deployed on the anniversary of the founding of the Japanese nation.

At dawn, February 11th, they started a general offensive on the enemy at Tangyin. Both Japanese artillery and air forces took part in the attack. The Japanese military air force flew in formation over the enemy positions and showered bombs while heavy artillery fire was concentrated on the enemy positions.

The Morita, Ishiguro and Toyama detachments led by tanks then started an advance on the enemy positions. Toward evening, the Japanese force on the right flank advanced from Fengchiachiao and reached Polo, about 10 kilometres south of Tangyin, while the right wing reached Erhshihlipu after reducing Weichiaying, 6 kilometres south of Changteh and the left wing reached the line connecting Kwanchuan (about 6 kilometres southeast of Tangyin), Szetaisze and Szetai.

The Toriya unit of the Japanese military air force on February 10th succeeded in blowing up part of the iron bridge on the Yellow River. On February 11th, the unit again penetrated far into the enemy positions and, defying enemy fire, blew up the iron bridge.

On February 12th, the Japanese forces kept up attacks on Tangyin. The troops on the right flank dislodged the enemy from a height south of Loyin (about 8 kilometres southwest of Ikowchen) and continued their southern drive. The right wing at 10 a.m. succeeded in reducing Tangyin and pursued the enemy toward Ikowchen, while the left wing at midnight, February 11th, cut off the southern retreat of the enemy at Lichu (8 kilometres south of Tangyin) and inflicted heavy losses on the Chinese. The left wing of the Japanese force continued its southward drive and reached the line connecting Hsiachuan (8 kilometres southwest of Ikowchen) with Sinchuan toward the evening of February 12th. The enemy apparently consisted of the 130th and 116th infantry divisions and the 9th cavalry division of the Chinese army under General Wan Fu-lin. The enemy left about 1,000 dead in the engagement on February 11th.

On February 13th, the Japanese forces gave close chase to the retreating Chinese troops. The Imada tank unit reached Chihsien at 11 a.m. and entered the walled town from the north gate, followed by infantry units. Toward evening, these detachments reached the line connecting Huangshantsun (about 16 kilometres southwest of

Chihsien), Hsiaochuang (about 8 kilometres south of Chihsien) and Sisan (about 8 kilometres southeast of Chihsien). The Toyama detachment which had been pursuing the enemy in the western mountainous region overtook about 6,000 Chinese soldiers near Tahutung (about 12 kilometres northwest of Chihsien) and dealt them a crushing blow.

The vanguard of the main body of the Japanese forces subsequently reached the line connecting Yinmahutung (16 kilometres north of Weihwei), Kanchuang and Takwanchuang. The Japanese launched a general onslaught on the enemy positions from Weihwei to Sinsiang on the morning of February 15th.

Toward evening, the following day, the main body of the Japanese forces occupied Weihsien, while the centre and left wings reached Howlikuo and Tungchangmen respectively. During the day the enemy suffered several thousands of casualties.

The Chinese troops were in full retreat. Several enemy columns were retreating west and southwest in the Shiuwu, Wuchih and Howkia areas, while in the Sinsiang district no Chinese soldier was to be seen. On February 16th, the Japanese forces started pursuit of the fleeing enemy along the entire front.

On February 17th, the Japanese left wing occupied Sinsiang without meeting stiff resistance. The Sakanishi detachment reached Hsiaokichen on the Peking-Hankow Railway at about noon.

The Japanese forces also started a drive on Hwaiking in two columns from Hweihsien on the afternoon of February 17th. The right column advanced on Hwaiking by way of Hweihsien, Shiuwu and Tsiaotsochen, while the left column also left Hweihsien for Hwaiking via Howkia and Shiuwu.

The pursuit was continued on February 18th. Toward evening on that day, the right column reached Wutsun (about 12 kilometres northeast of Shiuwu), while the left column started an attack on some 500 Chinese artillerymen which had taken up positions east of Shiuwu. The following day, both columns broke through the enemy positions. At about 4 p.m., the right column dislodged the enemy from Machieh (north of Taiwangchen), while the left column took Ningkuo. On February 20th, the right column occupied Poai, and the left column took a district east of Hwaiking.

On February 21st, the right column reached Shihpuli (8 kilometres west of Hwaiking), while the left column reduced Hwaiking and advanced further south. With the spectacular advance of the Japanese forces in northern Honan Province, peace maintenance commissions have been voluntarily formed by leading citizens at important towns, including Changyuan, Weihwei and Sinsiang.

The right column of the Japanese troops kept up its southern drive, by defeating the opposing enemy forces, and at 4 p.m., February 22nd, occupied Tsiyuan, while the left column at 11 o'clock the same morning reduced Menghsien. Later, the Japanese forces prepared for an attack on southern Shansi Province.

The Ishiguro detachment, on the evening of February 24th, successfully stormed the Chinese position near Takowtsun (about 24 kilometres north of Hwaiking). The Morita and Toyama detachments left Tsiyuan on February 25th for Wangwuchen (about 30 kilometres west of Tsiyuan).

On February 26th, the Ishiguro detachment entered Tsehchow, after defeating the enemy at Taping (3 kilometres north of Takowtsun) and Tientsingkwan. The following day, the detachment resumed its drive and entered Choutsun. On February 28th, this unit dislodged Chinese troops from the right bank of the Tsin River. On March 1st, the detachment advanced further and drove away the enemy from the area northwest of Yangcheng.

The Morita and Toyama detachments which pursued the enemy toward the west liquidated about 2,000 Chinese soldiers west of Wangwuchen on February 26th. Two days later, they reduced Hangku, and on March 1st reached Chiaosiehtsun (about 8 kilometres northwest of Yuanku).

The Japanese forces which had been standing by near Hantan on the Peking-Hankow Railway started operations on February 11th to purge the mountainous region west of the railway. The Japanese right wing left Hantan on February 11th for Wuan. The following day, at 3 p.m., this detachment drove west, passing through Tsung-yi (about 8 kilometres west of Wuan).

The Kudo detachment met about 8,000 Chinese at Wuan at about 11 a.m., February 11th, and dealt them a crushing blow.

On February 14th, the right column reached Howchai and subsequently advanced on a district north of Shehsien. After defeating the enemy east of Shehsien, the detachment reached Honantien (2 kilometres southwest of Shehsien).

On February 15th, the Kudo detachment encountered and defeated the Chinese 130th infantry division and the 4th cavalry division east of Shehsien. Toward evening the detachment reached a district west of Shehsien. The Japanese right wing also reached a point north of Shehsien, after dealing successfully with the enemy on the way. On February 16th, the Japanese started a drive on Tungyangkwan on the southwestern border of Shansi Province. On February 17th, the vanguard and right wing of the Japanese troops dislodged the enemy from Tungyangkwan by surrounding them.

Pursuing the retreating Chinese, they penetrated southern Shansi Province and took Licheng toward evening, the same day. The enemy then fled toward Luan.

The Chinese left about 100 dead in the engagement at Tungyang-kwan, while the Japanese losses totalled only 5 killed and 88 wounded. The Japanese captured about 1,000 hand grenades, several thousand rounds of ammunition and a large number of trench-mortar shells, and also took over 50 Chinese soldiers prisoner. On February 18th, the Japanese started a drive on Lucheng, after dislodging the Chinese troops from the right bank of the Chang River.

On February 19th, they drove away the enemy from Lucheng and kept up their westward drive. About midnight, the same day, they successfully stormed Luan from which the enemy fled, leaving about 500 dead.

The Japanese vanguard, on the morning of February 20th, succeeded in clearing Luan of the remnants of the Chinese troops and immediately prepared for a continued southern drive.

On February 21st, the right column took Tunliu (30 kilometres northwest of Luan). On February 24th, it advanced northeast and reduced Sianyuan.

The Shansi Front

The Japanese forces which had been standing by south of Taiyuan, capital of Shansi Province, resumed their southern push on February 11th, Empire Day, in cooperation with the troops along the Peking-Hankow Railway which also became active about that time. The Japanese vanguard on February 13th reduced Pingyao, from which the enemy fled, leaving about 1,500 dead. On the afternoon of February 16th, this force entered Chiehhsiu.

The right column of the Japanese troops together with a cavalry force advanced on a district northeast of Siaoyi on the morning of February 16th and took it. In the engagement at Siaoyi, the Japanese routed about 1,500 soldiers of the Chinese 71st infantry division and about 300 of the Chinese cavalry. The Japanese casualty list included only 1 killed and 3 wounded, while the enemy left about 550 dead. The Japanese capture included about 100 rifles and a large quantity of ammunition.

On the morning of February 17th, the column resumed its advance and at 1 o'clock that afternoon took Paipikwan (about 8 kilometres northwest of Siaoyi). Toward evening, the column encountered about 600 Chinese soldiers at a point 16 kilometres north

of Siaoyi and dealt them a crushing blow. The southern drive was maintained the following day. And on February 19th, the Japanese right column made a drive on Shihkowchen and Chuangchihchen.

The Imperial vanguard which reached Chiehhsiu sent a detachment to Tsingshengchen on February 18th. This detachment, after dispersing some 500 Chinese soldiers there, reconnoitred enemy positions at Lingshih preparatory to attacking them.

Part of the Japanese right column encountered about 1,300 Chinese soldiers on February 20th and defeated them. Toward evening, the Japanese faced the enemy positions northeast of Shikowchen where about 3,000 of the enemy were entrenched.

The main body of the right column, after defeating the enemy near Chuangchihchen, reached a district east of Shikowchen toward evening, February 20th. The following day, it dislodged about 4,000 Chinese from their positions east of Chuankowchen and entered Shikowchen at 8 p.m., by defeating about 2,000 Chinese troops which had been retreating. On the Japanese side 15 were killed and 46 wounded, while the enemy left about 1,000 dead.

On February 23rd, the main body of the Japanese forces launched an attack on the enemy positions near Lingshih, while the Japanese left wing reached the northern side of Hwoshihtsun (12 kilometres southeast of Lingshih), by breaking through the enemy line of skirmish. The centre of the column advanced to Suitaochen (about 1 kilometre north of Lingshih), while the right wing was preparing to attack the enemy position at a point 16 kilometres southeast of Chuangchihchen which formed the left wing of the enemy forces.

The Japanese right column on the morning of February 23rd pushed southwest from Shikowchen and attacked the enemy near Hsialitsun in the afternoon. The Chinese troops, strongly reinforced, attempted a counter-attack, but were repulsed with heavy losses by the Japanese forces.

On February 24th, the Japanese forces battered the enemy position north of Sihsien, which they reduced two days later.

The right wing of the main Japanese forces, at about noon, February 24th, reached Wangyu (some 12 kilometres northwest of Fensi); the centre advanced to Suitaochen and its eastern district and the left wing reached a district north of Hwokowtsun. The enemy offered stiff resistance. At dawn on February 24th, one enemy division counter-attacked the right flank of the Japanese right wing. Taking advantage of this manœuvre, the Japanese right wing greeted the enemy with a fierce counter-offensive and repelled them with heavy losses. The situation before the Japanese main body steadily developed in favour of the Imperial forces who out-

flanked the enemy left wing by cutting off their retreat on February 25th. The Japanese entered Jenyichen on the afternoon of February 25th. The enemy facing the Japanese main body apparently was composed of the Chinese 11th division.

On February 26th, the Japanese main body made a drive on Hwohsien, after defeating the enemy who had been offering stubborn resistance in the district south of Jenyichen. The Japanese forces along the whole front gave hot chase to the retreating enemy on February 27th. The following day, the right column took Wucheng, while the right wing together with a cavalry force advanced to a district southwest of Linfen.

Japanese troops which had been purging the Tahsing mountain range now turned their attention to Linfen. On February 22nd, one unit started an advance on Linfen along the highway from Luan to Linfen via Fucheng, which stands 60 kilometres west of Luan. The same afternoon, the detachment reached Paotien (8 kilometres southwest of Tunliu) and on the following day, advanced to Pien-chai (about 30 kilometres west of Paotien). After routing the enemy near Poti (some 8 kilometres west of Fucheng), the detachment reduced Tsingpoyen (25 kilometres west of Fucheng) on February 26th. The following afternoon, this unit succeeded in occupying Linfen on the Tatung-Puchow Railway, about 200 kilometres southwest of Taiyuan.

Meanwhile the vanguard of the Japanese forces which had been pushing southwest from Taiyuan took Wenshui on the evening of February 15th. The following evening, it advanced to a district northeast of Fenyang. The enemy left about 500 dead in the engagement near Wenshui.

The Sasaki detachment at 5 p.m., February 16th occupied Tungshechen, a mountainous district north of Wenshui, after defeating some 700 Chinese soldiers. The enemy left about 100 dead.

The Japanese vanguard started an attack on Fenyang early on the morning of February 17th and reduced it at noon.

On February 23rd, the Sasaki detachment started a drive on Shangmachai (12 kilometres north of Wuchengchen); the Nagasawa detachment advanced on Wuchengchen and Japanese cavalry and other units advanced on Chungyang. They started concerted attacks on Lishih and Chungyang on February 24th and reduced them the same evening. On February 27th, they pushed further west and succeeded in taking Tsikowchen and Chuntu, two important border towns, thus driving the Chinese troops into Shensi Province across the Yellow River which forms the border between Shansi and Shensi Provinces.

The Senda and Iwada detachments which started a clean-up campaign against the remnants of the Chinese troops in northwestern Shansi Province left Shohhsien on February 23rd for Shenchih and Ningwu, defeating Chinese troops on the way. The Kunomura detachment left Tsingpingchen (25 kilometres northwest of Shohhsien) on February 24th for Laoyingpu.

The Senda detachment occupied Shenshih on the evening of February 24th, while the Iwata detachment took Tienerhshang (about 30 kilometres west of Ningwu) and the Kunomura detachment reduced Naihopu. Another Japanese detachment took Tsingshuiho on the evening of February 23rd.

On February 26th, the Kunomura detachment occupied Laoyingpu, while the Senda and Iwata detachments took Sanchapu. On February 28th, the latter reduced Pienkwan and Paoteh on the Yellow River. The Senda detachment overcame about 1,000 Chinese soldiers which attempted to flee into Shensi Province, by crossing the Yellow River at dawn on March 2nd.

The Peking-Suiyuan Railway Front

Some 2,000 Chinese troops which had taken up positions in the neighbourhood of Anpei, northwest of Paotow, the western terminus of the Peking-Suiyuan Railway on February 9th attacked the Mongol troops at Shachikow, northwest of Paotow, but were repelled by the Mongols with heavy losses.

About 1,000 of the Chinese troops under General Ma Chan-shan which had established positions on the southern bank of the Yellow River in an attempt to recover Suiyuan Province crossed that river on February 9th and attacked Salatsi, half-way between Paotow and Suiyuan, but were repulsed by the combined forces of the Japanese garrison and Mongol troops.

The Chinese Communist troops which had been infesting the Hunyuan district southeast of Tatung staged attacks repeatedly on Hunyuan and Lingkiu in cooperation with the Chinese force near Lingkiu on February 10th, but were repelled by the Japanese troops. Their numerical strength is fast dwindling as a result of the successful Japanese expedition.

The Tientsin-Pukow Railway Front

Repair work on the Shantung Railway which had been in progress since last December has been completed. The section between Tsochan and Chuliutien which was severely molested by the Chinese troops was successfully repaired by the Kimura engineering detach-

ment on February 10th. Service on the Shantung Railway, 393 kilometres in length, between Tsinan and Tsingtao was re-opened on February 11th.

At 8 a.m., February 11th, a 16-car train left Tsinan for Tsingtao, while another train left Tsingtao for Tsinan about the same time. The management of the Shantung Railway is entrusted to the South Manchuria Railway Company, as a temporary measure. Three services daily are now maintained on this line.

Meanwhile, construction of a temporary bridge on the Yellow River was completed by the Kimura engineering detachment on February 9th. With befitting ceremonies the bridge was dedicated on February 11th. At 11:14 o'clock, the same morning, a train left the northern bank of the Yellow River and arrived at Tsinan at noon, after crossing the temporary bridge.

A temporary bridge over the Tawen River on the Tientsin-Pukow Railway was also completed on February 9th. The bridge was dedicated on February 11th, when a train which left Tsinan at 8:40 a.m. duly arrived at Tsining.

Thus both the Tientsin-Pukow and Shantung Railways which were seriously damaged by the Chinese troops were repaired and re-opened to traffic, reviving this important artery of communication to normal functioning.

Part of the Yamada detachment which left Tsingtao by several large motor-boats at 5:30 a.m., February 12th, for Hwangtao (Yellow Island) west of Tsingtao landed on the island and seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition concealed in Yentanchuang and other villages.

On the afternoon of February 15th, about 300 of the enemy launched a counter-attack on Szechui northeast of Kufu, the birth place of the great Chinese Saint Confucius, but were easily repelled by the Japanese garrison.

A Chinese regiment belonging to the 125th division of the Szechuan Army counter-attacked the Japanese position at Yuhsiatien south of Tsohsien on the afternoon of February 14th, but was repulsed. The enemy fled southward.

A large Chinese force, some three divisions strong, surrounded Tsining on February 14th, but was driven back by the Japanese garrison after severe fighting.

At 4:30 o'clock, February 13th, another large Chinese force attacked the Japanese position at Wenshang, 40 kilometres north of Tsining, but was repulsed by the Numada and Fukuei detachments with heavy punishment. The fighting lasted till the next dawn.

On the same day "Red Spear" bandits attacked Changtsing, but were driven back by the Akashiba detachment.

The Nagano detachment, after successfully purging the districts northwest of Tsining, started an attack on the enemy on the eastern bank of the Grand Canal near Tachangkow on the morning of February 18th. This unit inflicted a crushing blow to the 22nd division of the Shantung Army by February 18th. The main body of the detachment then entered Tsining.

A powerful Chinese force approached the southeastern salient of Tsining at midnight, February 17th, when severe fighting ensued. The Numada detachment, after driving back the enemy, began pursuit of the retreating enemy in a southwestern direction at 11 a.m., February 19th. Toward evening, the detachment occupied Anchuchen, after defeating about 300 Chinese soldiers armed with trench-mortars. The left column of the Japanese force took Sichengchiao, by defeating about 500 Chinese troops likewise armed with trench-mortars. The following day, pursuit was continued and the Japanese dislodged the enemy from Hsiaoliu west of Anchuchen on February 22nd.

Part of the Nakaye detachment which had been standing by near Tsohsien occupied Hsiakanpi, by dispersing about 2,000 Chinese soldiers south of Sihsiatien during the afternoon and night of February 17th.

The Chinese troops belonged to the 125th division. Another part of the Japanese detachment, on February 19th, cleared Shichiang, South-west of Tsohsien, of the remnants of Chinese troops.

The Kuwada detachment also succeeded in dislodging some 2,000 Chinese soldiers which belonged to the 39th division from Hsiaoliu east of Szechui.

The Japanese forces which had succeeded in purging the Shantung Railway of the remnants of the Chinese army then started a drive southward.

The Okamoto detachment started a southward drive from Chiangku, while the Katano detachment occupied Chuhsien, a key town in southeastern Shantung Province on February 22nd. Together they launched a converging movement on Ichow.

The Japanese forces operating in Anhwei Province were standing by after occupying Pengpu and Hwaiyuan, important towns in the southern sector of the Tientsin-Pukow Railway. They resumed operations on February 11th and crossed the Hwai River. All key points on the northern bank of the river are now in Japanese hands. Japanese forces now control that river which forms an important waterway between the Yellow River and the Yangtze.

Simultaneously, the Japanese troops which were pushing south along the northern section of the Tientsin-Pukow Railway succeeded in reducing Kiasiang, a strategically important town west of Tsining.

Activities of the Japanese Military Air Force

In cooperation with the swift Japanese military operations which have taken place along the Peking-Hankow Railway since the resumption of the offensive by the Japanese forces in Shansi, Honan and Shantung Provinces, the Japanese Military Air Force has been active, attacking the Chinese military establishments and troop concentrations in Shansi Province and also along the Yellow River.

At 3 p.m., February 18th, Chinese troops were routed from the line between Sinsiang and Howkia in Honan Province. They were overtaken by the Sonoda unit of the Japanese Military Air Force on the highway from Siwu to Hwaiking via Wuchih and subjected to a severe attack. The enemy suffered heavy losses. Several hundred Chinese troops which attempted to cross the Yellow River to Szeshui on the southern bank were also bombed and subjected to machine-gun fire from Japanese military planes.

The Akita unit of the Japanese Military Air Force at 10:40 a.m., February 18th, met 8 Chinese heavy bombers flying northward over Sinsiang and gave chase to them, which, however, succeeded in escaping, over Tzehsien. The Akita unit consisted of three planes. The same day a military air unit dropped bombs on the railway bridge on the Yellow River, of which 4 took effect.

The Toriya, Shimada and Sonoda air units during February 19th attacked Chinese troop concentrations fleeing into the mountainous region of Shansi Province from the Peking-Hankow Railway zone before the fierce onslaught of the Japanese ground forces.

That morning, the Toriya and Shimada units visited Yushe (40 kilometres southeast of Pingyao), Liaohsien (32 kilometres east of Yushe), Shenhien (about 40 kilometres southwest of Yushe), Shenyuan (28 kilometres southwest of Shenhien) and Changtze (about 24 kilometres west of Luan) and bombed the Chinese military establishments and troop concentrations there. In the afternoon, they bombed a large Chinese troop concentration at Tunliu.

On the afternoon of February 19th, several planes of the Sonoda unit attacked about 600 Chinese troops which attempted to escape to Szeshui on the southern bank of the Yellow River.

Several planes of the Shimada unit resumed their attacks on Shenyusu and Yushe at 11:30 a.m., February 20th. Two divisions of Chinese troops which were concentrated at Yushe on that day

were almost wiped out. The Chinese Communist troops had been establishing bases of operations at Shenyuan and Yushe.

At 9:40 a.m., February 20th, when a Japanese Military Air Force was attacking the mountainous region in Shansi Province, a machine piloted by Lieutenant Kiyoshi Komine had its propeller pierced by an enemy bullet. The machine with the lieutenant and his two men crashed into the enemy position. All were killed.

On February 20th, the Toriya unit attacked a large Chinese troop concentration at Kaoping in Shansi Province inflicting heavy losses.

On the afternoon of February 21st, the Sonoda air unit visited Szeshui and Kunghsien on the Lunhai Railway and bombed railway stations and military establishments. About 120 cars loaded with munitions were destroyed. The Shimaya unit visited Yangcheng in southern Shansi Province and Tuantzechen (north of Yangcheng) and attacked a large concentration of Chinese troops, inflicting heavy damage. On the same day, the Yamase unit visited Yushe and bombed the enemy positions there, while another Japanese military air unit raided Sihsien.

At 1:40 p.m., February 23rd, a military air unit visited Chungyang and Lishih in western Shansi Province and attacked the enemy positions there successfully.

Activities of the Japanese Military Air Force have not been spectacular, but its cooperation with the ground forces has been of decisive merit:

II

—FORCES OF THE IMPERIAL NAVY IN ACTION—

PUBLICITY BUREAU, NAVY DEPARTMENT

The Naval Air Force in China

CONTINUED operation of the Canton-Hankow Railway now remains as the only hope for the Chiang Kai-shek administration which is obsessed with the idea of long-term hostilities against Japan. Under these circumstances, it is only natural that the Japanese Naval Air Force should pay particular attention to the Canton-Hankow Railway which it is attacking almost daily. The following is an outline of the activities of the Japanese Naval Air Force from February 8th to February 27th.

The South China Front

The Japanese Naval Air Force concentrated its activities on the key points along the Canton-Hankow Railway with Canton in the centre.

Niuwan, Kungyifow, Taishan and other important points on the Sunning Railway were attacked by Japanese naval air units, which also bombed Wangkianghu, Samshui, Sinenchen and other important points on the Canton-Samshui Railway.

Tungkun, Kumha, Fuyung, Changping, Tangmei, Pitsun, Sintang, Sheklung, Wangsha, Shekku, Tangtao, Shahu, Lungtao, Yangniu, Changmutao, Paishi, Tutang, Lintsun, Tsitsun and Tientangwei on the Canton-Kowloon Railway also received the attention of the Japanese naval planes which bombed them from time to time.

The Japanese Naval Air Force almost daily visited Sanhuatiien, Yingtak, Wushek, Sinkai, Yinchanyao, Shakow, Litung, Yangtsunhu, Kongtsun, Siuchow, Chuntien, Hotow, Lienkonghow, Lungtan, Pakonghow, Shektsing and other important points on the Canton-Hankow Railway and attacked Chinese military establishments, including railway bridges and military barracks. It also repeatedly bombed the airfields at Tienho and Pakwan near Canton as well as the Bocca Tigris and Chuani Forts.

The airfields at Amoy, Changchow and Nanyang in Fukien Province were attacked by Japanese air units on February 24th. The Japanese raiders destroyed 4 hangars and 4 aeroplanes on the ground

at Nanyung in addition to 8 Chinese planes which they succeeded in bringing down in an air duel.

On February 25th, several Japanese naval planes visited Kienow in Fukien Province and Wuchow in Kwangsi Province and effectively bombed the airfields there.

On February 26th, the Japanese Naval Air Force visited Lungyen in Fukien Province and bombed the airfield, destroying three hangars. On February 26th and 27th, it raided Nancheng in Kiangsi Province and bombed the local airfield, destroying three hangars and one aeroplane on the ground.

The Central China Front

The Japanese Naval Air Force devoted its attention to those towns in Central China where governmental offices of the Chiang Kai-shek Administration are now established.

Ichang, an important town in Hupei Province was raided by Japanese naval planes on February 8th, 17th and 21st. Two hangars, several depots and military barracks were destroyed in addition to 14 aeroplanes which were bombed and burned.

Hankow was also raided on February 8th and 18th. Two blocks of buildings were destroyed at the Hanyang Arsenal, while 6 aeroplanes were destroyed at the airfield which was severely damaged by Japanese bombs. In ensuing air duels, the Japanese raiders shot down 19 Chinese planes.

On February 9th, the Japanese Naval Air Force visited Siangyang in Hupei Province and brought down 5 Chinese planes besides another 2 which were destroyed on the ground.

The same day, Changsha was raided for the first time with the result that a hangar and 2 planes on the ground were destroyed. On February 17th, the Japanese Naval Air Force revisited Changsha and destroyed 2 more planes on the ground.

On February 18th, the Japanese Naval Air Force visited Chungking in Szechuan Province and effectively bombed the airfield and military barracks there.

Prompted by the desire to reorganize its shattered air force, the Hankow Government has been constructing new airfields at various points; a new airfield was established at Nanchang.

On February 25th, the Japanese Air Force raided Nanchang and shot down no less than 39 Chinese planes which challenged the Japanese raiders. Additionally, 5 hangars, 1 factory and 2 military barracks were destroyed.

On February 9th, several Japanese naval planes visited Siangyang

in Hupei Province and brought down 5 Chinese planes in addition to 2 which were destroyed on the ground.

The Japanese Naval Air Force visited Lishui in Chekiang Province on February 8th, 24th, and 25th and bombed the airfield there, destroying hangars and military barracks in addition to one aeroplane on the ground.

Kian in Kiangsi Province was also raided on February 21st and 23rd, with the result that 8 planes on the ground were destroyed, while Chuchow in Chekiang Province was raided on February 24th, 25th and 26th severely damaging its airfield. One plane on the ground was bombed and destroyed.

The Japanese Naval Air Force also visited Nanyang in Kwangsi Province, Changshuchen, Yushan and Wenchow in Kiangsi Province during February and successfully bombed the airfields there.

Likewise during the month of January did the Japanese Naval Air Force conduct numerous expeditionary flights in South and Central China. The following gives details concerning these flights during the period between January 3rd and February 6th.

January 3rd The North China front: Japanese naval planes reconnoitred Hsuchow, the junction of the Lunhai and Tientsin-Pukow Railways and bombed the Chinese military establishments at Hsuchow and several points on the Lunhai Railway.

The South China front: Japanese naval planes attacked the Bocca Tigris Fort and the highway leading to the fort.

January 4th The North China front: Japanese naval planes reconnoitred and attacked the Hsuchow district.

The Central China front: A large Japanese air force flying in formation visited Hankow and shot down 4 Chinese planes in aerial combat. The Japanese raiders bombed and destroyed 14 planes on the ground and damaged three more.

The South China front: Japanese naval planes visited the Canton-Hankow Railway and bombed the tracks near Laitung.

January 5th The North China front: In addition to reconnoitring over Laoshan Bay, Japanese naval planes visited Chucheng and Chuhsien and bombed Chinese troop concentrations and military establishments there.

The South China front: A Japanese naval unit visited the Canton-Hankow Railway and bombed the tracks and a locomotive near Laitung.

January 6th The Central China front: A large Japanese naval force again visited Hankow and Wuchang and attacked the airfields there. The Japanese raiders bombed and destroyed 14 Chinese planes on the ground and two hangars in addition to damaging several more planes. They sighted one Chinese plane between Hankow and Wuchang and gave chase to it. However, taking advantage of the poor visibility then prevailing, it managed to escape.

The South China Front: A Japanese air unit visited Laitung on the Canton-Hankow Railway.

January 7th The Central China front: Japanese planes flying in formation visited Nanchang, capital of Kiangsi Province and brought down 5 out of about 10 Chinese planes in the air. On the way back two Japanese naval planes met over a dozen Chinese combat planes, and in the ensuing air duel shot down 3 of them, but one of the two Japanese planes was lost. The Japanese unit bombed and destroyed 10 out of more than 20 Chinese planes on the ground and damaged several more. One hangar was burned.

January 8th The South China front: The Japanese Naval Air Force twice visited Nanning in southwestern Kwangsi Province. In the morning raid, the Japanese effectively bombed the cadet school building and several buildings adjacent to the airfield, of which four were burned and two more destroyed. In the ensuing air combat, the Japanese raiders brought down 2 Chinese challengers. In the afternoon raid, the Japanese burned two buildings, destroyed two others and shot down 4 Chinese planes.

A Japanese naval air unit also visited Laitung on the Canton-Hankow Railway and bombed the tracks and a troop train there.

January 9th The Central China front: Several Japanese naval planes raided Nanchang, capital of Kiangsi Province, shooting down one Chinese plane and bombing 3 on the ground. The Japanese raiders also attacked and damaged three hangars and the aeronautical school building.

The South China front: Several Japanese naval planes visited Nanning in southwestern Kwangsi Province in the afternoon, bombed 3 Chinese planes on the ground and destroyed one hangar in addition to damaging several other buildings as well as the airfield.

A Japanese naval air unit visited Laitung on the Canton-Hankow Railway and attacked a freight train near there.

Another naval air unit visited Bocca Tigris and attacked Chinese lines of communication.

January 10th The North China front: The naval air force participated in the reduction of Tsingtao and attacked the remnants of the Chinese troops at Chucheng and Liangchengchu as well as along the Shantung Railway and in the suburbs of Tsingtao, including Litsunliuting and Tsimo.

The Central China front: Several Japanese naval planes visited Yushan, Chuchow, and Nancheng and attacked the Chinese airfields there.

The South China front: A Japanese naval air unit raided Chuntien and Lienkonghong and attacked the Chinese line of communication there.

January 11th The North China front: Japanese naval air units visited Haichow, eastern terminus of the Lunhai Railway, and bombed an engine-shed and an army depot there. They also attacked Chinese troop concentrations between Kiaochow and Chucheng as well as between Chucheng and Kaomi.

The Central China front: A Japanese naval air force visited Hankow and bombed 6 Chinese planes on the ground. The raiders also damaged 5 other planes on the ground and destroyed a hangar. Not a single Chinese plane challenged the Japanese fliers. On the way back, the raiders sighted 3 Chinese planes near Wuhu and shot down one of them after a hard chase.

The South China front: Several Japanese naval planes visited the Canton-Hankow Railway and bombed military establishments along the line.

January 12th The North China front: A Japanese naval air unit visited Shantung Province and attacked Chinese troop concentrations between Jihchao and Chuhsien as well as between Linyi and Hankow.

The Central China front: A Japanese naval air force visited Nanchang, capital of Kiangsi Province, in formation and bombed and destroyed four main buildings of the aeronautical school there together with five hangars and three annexes. The Japanese raiders, not challenged by any Chinese planes, bombed several machines on the ground.

The South China front: Several Japanese naval planes visited Yintak in Kwangtung Province and attacked the Chinese line of communication south of it. The also bombed the railway tracks near Chuntien.

January 13th The South China front: Japanese naval air units visited Chuntien, Shakow and Yintak and attacked freight trains and locomotives and destroyed railway tracks between Shakow and Yintak.

January 14th The South China front: The Japanese Naval Air Force resumed activities over Kwangtung Province, devoting particular attention to the Canton-Hankow Railway. The Japanese raiders bombed freight cars and locomotives between Chuntien and Kongtsun, cars between Yinchanyao and Sinkai and railway bridges and tracks between Shiuchow and Shakow.

January 15th The North China front: A Japanese naval air unit reconnoitered the area between Tsimo and Kaomi, but failed to sight Chinese soldiers.

The Central China front: The Japanese Naval Air Force again visited Nanchang and bombed the airfield there, which together with its aeronautical school was completely wrecked by the repeated Japanese air attacks. The Japanese raiders also visited Siaokan and bombed the railway station north of it.

The South China front: Several Japanese air units visited the Canton-Hankow Railway and bombed freight trains between Chuntien and Kongtsun, one at Wongsha and freight trains between Kongtsun and Pakonghow.

January 16th The South China front: Several Japanese naval planes visited Yuantan and Yinchanyao on the Canton-Hankow Railway and bombed Chinese military establishments.

January 17th The South China front: A Japanese naval air unit visited Kowtan on the Canton-Hankow Railway, bombing the Chinese military lines of communication near there.

January 18th The South China front: Braving foul weather, the Japanese Naval Air Force visited various important points along the Canton-Hankow Railway including Kowtan, Sinkai and Sanhuatien and bombed locomotives and freight cars.

January 19th The North China front: A Japanese naval air unit visited Haichow and bombed the Chinese military barracks there as well as the railway bridge west of Haichow.

The South China front: Several Japanese naval planes raided various important points along the Canton-Hankow Railway including Sinkai, Chuntien, Kowtan and Kumha, bombing troops trains and freight cars. A highway and bridges near Kumha were likewise bombed.

January 20th The North China front: Japanese naval planes visited Hsuchow, the junction of the Lunghai and Tientsin-Pukow Railways, and bombed a troop train west of that city.

The South China front: The Japanese naval air force again visited the Canton-Hankow Railway and bombed Chinese military establishments at Chuntien, Kumha, Yangtsun, Yuantan and Yinchan Yao along the railway.

January 21st The North China front: A Japanese naval air unit visited Hsuchow and bombed the North Station. The unit also flew over Fangshanchen and bombed a military goods train and several locomotives there.

The South China front: Several Japanese naval planes visited Kongtsun, Chuntong, Yangtsun and Lintsun in Kwangtung Province and bombed Chinese military establishments.

January 22nd The North China front: Japanese naval air units again visited Hsuchow and bombed two blocks of the Chinese military barracks there. They also bombed locomotives between Chuangchiachen and Chengtaochen as well as between Haichow and Lienyunchiang. Chinese troop concentrations between Sinanchen and Lichiachu were attacked.

The Central China front: A Japanese naval air unit raided Chuchow in Chekiang Province and bombed the airfield. It also attacked and destroyed Chinese machine-gun emplacements near the airfield which fired on the Japanese raiders.

The South China front: A Japanese naval air unit raided Nongshek and Yingka on the Canton-Hankow Railway and bombed a north-bound freight train and military establishments.

January 23rd The North China front: Several Japanese naval planes visited Hsuchow, Huangkow, Tangshan and Chuangchiachen and bombed engine-sheds, military barracks, freight cars, troop trains, troop concentrations and military motor-lorries.

The South China front: The Japanese Naval Air Force visited Wong-shek, Sheklung, Kowtang, Tsomaying, Sinkai, Sanhuatien, Yuantan and Shakow and bombed military establishments.

January 24th The North China front: A Japanese naval air unit visited Haichow.

The Central China front: Japanese planes visited Chuchow in Chekiang Province and Ningpo, bombing the airfields.

A Japanese air force flying in formation raided Ichang and bombed 16 out of about 30 Chinese planes on the ground which were burned, a hangar, a fuel depot and military barracks. One Chinese plane took the air but did not challenge the Japanese raiders.

The South China front: A Japanese naval air unit visited Sinkai, Huangshih, Kowtang and Towshan and bombed military establishments. The Pokwan airfield near Canton was also bombed.

January 25th The South China front: Japanese naval air units visited various places, including Amoy where they bombed the airfield, hangars and the telegraph office; Haiteng, where they bombed 4 ships displaying Chinese naval ensigns, sinking 2 of them and wrecking one; Kongtsun where they bombed freight cars; Tienho where they bombed a large munitions factory; Whampoa where they bombed a depot for torpedo-boats; and Pakonghow where they bombed the military arsenal.

January 26th The Central China front: A squadron of 12 Chinese heavy bombers raided Nanking at about 10:15 o'clock in the morning. In the ensuing air combat, the Japanese naval unit shot down one of them, but the others escaped, pursued by several Japanese planes, which succeeded in bringing down two more enemy planes. All three Chinese planes which were shot down were almost totally destroyed but it is established that they were of Soviet manufacture, while their pilots were Soviet citizens, as proved by their personal effects.

A Japanese naval air unit visited Chuchow in Chekiang Province and bombed the airfield there.

The South China front: The Japanese Naval Air Force visited various points along the Canton-Hankow Railway, including Laitung where it bombed the entrance to a railway tunnel; Wongshek, where it bombed a goods train and Shektsing where it bombed the military arsenal.

January 27th The Central China front: A large Japanese air force flying in formation visited Hankow and bombed over a dozen Chinese planes on the ground, destroying one large and 3 small planes together with a nearby hangar. No Chinese plane challenged the Japanese raiders, which, however, sighted a Chinese heavy bomber fleeing toward the west and brought it down, after chasing it for some time.

The Japanese Naval Air Force also raided Nanchang and engaged over a dozen Chinese combat planes which had taken the air. After a fierce aerial duel, the Japanese raiders shot down 7 Chinese planes. They also bombed and destroyed two hangars and three more Chinese planes on the ground.

A Japanese air unit visited Chuchow and attacked the airfield there.

The South China front: Japanese naval planes visited Laitung, Lien-konghow, Takengkow and Hsiaotungshang on the Canton-Hankow Railway and bombed military establishments.

January 28th The South China front: A Japanese naval air unit visited Yinchanyao, Kowtang, Laitung, Paknai and Pitsun on the Canton-Hankow Railway, bombing military establishments.

January 29th The North China front: A Japanese naval air unit visited Haichow and bombed the airfield and military barracks there.

January 30th The South China front: A Japanese naval air unit visited Canton and Whampoa and bombed various military establishments, including a torpedo depot, and a mine depot.

January 31st The South China front: Japanese planes visited Samshui, Kumha and Pitsun and attacked military establishments.

February 1st Weather conditions were bad all over China, but several Japanese naval planes visited Yushan in Central China and bombed the airfield there. They also raided Ningpo, bombing the railway station.

February 2nd The South China front: A Japanese naval air unit visited Amoy and attacked Hulisheh Fort and the Chinese position at Hungtsifeng. It also raided Changpin and bombed enemy lines of communication at that point.

February 3rd The South China front: Several Japanese naval air units raided various points in South China, including Kongtsun where they bombed a highway; Amoy where they bombed military establishments, including Hulisheh Fort and the Chinese position; Sanhuatien on the Canton-Hankow Railway where they bombed a railway bridge; Tsengshing where they bombed a highway and a bridge; Tungkun where they bombed a road and a bridge connecting with Sintang; Yuantan where they bombed a troop train; Wongshek where they bombed a troop train; Shekku and Lilang where they bombed lines of communication.

February 4th The South China front: Several Japanese naval planes visited Bocca Tigris, Lunghua, Ahu, Tsengshing, Samshui and Tehching and bombed lines of communication including bridges. They also raided Swatow, Chaochow, Tsaitan and Chaoshan and bombed railway tracks and bridges. Military establishments at Pitsun, Shentsun, Tasuchen and Tailik were also attacked, as well as the track north of Chuntien on the Canton-Hankow Railway.

February 5th The North China front: A Japanese naval air unit visited Shihkiuso in Shantung Province.

The South China front: Several Japanese naval planes visited Canton, Bocca Tigris and Waichow and bombed highways and bridges. They also raided the Canton-Hankow Railway and bombed the military establishments at Kowtan, Pakkai, Tientang and Sheklung.

February 6th The Central China front: A Japanese naval air unit raided Lishui in Chekiang Province, 120 kilometres southeast of Chuchow, and effectively bombed the airfield there.

ORDINANCES RECENTLY PROMULGATED

PRIME MINISTER'S CABINET

Ordinance Revising Ordinance No. 31 of 1937 Concerning Health Insurance Experts

(Imperial Ordinance No. 21, Promulgated on
January 11, 1938)

This Ordinance deals with a revision of the provisions of Imperial Ordinance No. 31 of 1937 concerning the appointment, suspension, dismissal, ranking and salaries of health insurance experts. In view of the fact that the promotion of health and welfare is of great importance in Japan in the present situation, the Department of Welfare has been created whose function is to systematize the above task on a coordinated basis. The new Ordinance creates and places under the supervision of the Minister of Welfare the Board of Insurance to take charge of affairs connected with health insurance, accident relief liability insurance for labourers and other systems of social insurance, and with post office life insurance and annuities. This Board supersedes the Bureau of Social Affairs and the Bureau of Post Office Insurance.

Ordinance Concerning Organization of the Department of Welfare and the Board of Insurance

(Imperial Ordinance No. 19, Promulgated on
January 11, 1938)

This Ordinance provides for the organization of personnel in the Department of Welfare and the Board of Insurance as necessitated by the laws ordering the formation of these two agencies.

Ordinance Revising Former Ordinances Concerning the Institute of Nutrition

(Imperial Ordinance No. 20, Promulgated on
January 11, 1938)

This Ordinance authorizes a revision of the Imperial Ordinances relating to the Organization of the Institute of Nutrition, in accordance with the organization of the Department of Welfare and the Board of Insurance.

Ordinance Revising Regulations Concerning Midwifery

(Imperial Ordinance No. 24, Promulgated on
January 11, 1938)

This Ordinance provides for a revision in the existing Regulations concerning midwifery.

**Ordinance Concerning the Application of Ordinance
No. 151 of 1909**

(Imperial Ordinance No. 22, Promulgated on
January 11, 1938)

This Ordinance provides that, through application of Imperial Ordinance No. 151 of 1909 (relating to the Mutual Aid Society in the Department of Communications), those officers and clerks of the Board of Insurance engaged in the business of post office life insurance and annuities who had previously joined the Mutual Aid Society in the Department of Communications, or who have been appointed to their present posts since the coming into operation of the original Ordinance, shall be considered for the time being as officers and clerks of the Department of Communications.

**Effective Date of Law Concerning Functioning of the
Department of Welfare**

(Imperial Ordinance No. 26, Promulgated on
January 11, 1938)

This Ordinance sets the effective date of Law No. 80 of 1937 thereby determining the day on which the organization of the Department of Welfare begins operation. Law No. 80 deals with the expenses required in the handling of the business of postal life insurance and annuities and for the Special Account for communication services.

**Ordinance Concerning Supervision of Life
Insurance Companies**

(Imperial Ordinance No. 29, Promulgated on
January 12, 1938)

This Ordinance prescribes that, relating to the supervision of life insurance companies, matters concerning the fixing of norms governing employment of funds and of insurance premiums shall, in view of the crea-

tion of the Department of Welfare, be determined by consultation between that Department and the Department of Commerce and Industry. Details connected with measures to be taken to promote the health of the persons insured by life insurance companies shall be taken charge of jointly by the above Departments.

**Ordinance Concerning Creation of Advisers to the
Department of Finance**

(Imperial Ordinance No. 731, Promulgated on
December 27, 1937)

This Ordinance provides for the creation of a certain number of Advisers to the Department of Finance whose function is to give counsel on important matters relating to internal and external monetary problems with reference to the China Affair. These Advisers shall be appointed by Imperial nomination on the recommendation of the Minister of Finance from among persons with technical knowledge and tested experience.

Ordinance Concerning Investigation of Labour Conditions

(Imperial Ordinance No. 744, Promulgated on
December 27, 1937)

This Ordinance authorizes special statistical investigation on actual labour conditions with a view to studying labour conditions during the present emergency. This investigation shall be conducted separately from that carried on according to the Ordinance Concerning Statistical Investigation on Actual Labour Conditions with special reference to the problem of demobilization after the cessation of hostilities.